

8th February 1924]

**Tamil Lexicon.**

385 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount of money so far spent by the Government on the preparation of the Tamil Lexicon;
- (b) the amount of work so far done;
- (c) the amount of money which will have to be spent before the work is completed;
- (d) the time when the work is expected to be finished; and
- (e) the opinions of experts, if any, who have been consulted, as to the value of the work?

A.—(a) A sum of Rs. 1 lakh was sanctioned by Government for expenditure on the preparation of the Tamil Lexicon. This has been fully utilized and the University has been meeting further expenditure from grants annually placed at its disposal by Government. The total amount spent up to the 31st March 1923 was Rs. 1,41,736. The Government have no information as to the amount spent subsequent to that date.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the periodical reports on the progress of the Tamil Lexicon, which are placed on the Editors' Table. The latest of the reports is printed in G.O. No. 1236, Law (Education), dated 5th September 1923.

(c) Rupees 1,19,264 as per estimate framed in 1921.

(d) In about three years.

(e) The Government have not consulted experts as to the value of the work which is under the supervision of the Syndicate of the University of Madras.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“Does not the hon. the Minister for Education know that under his University Act for the last one year nearly there has been no Syndicate in the University of Madras? We are just now having the election for the Syndicate. May I ask him to explain what he means by the answer to clause (e), viz., ‘The Government have not consulted experts as to the value of the work which is under the supervision of the Syndicate of the University of Madras’, which is a non-existent body?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“I thought the hon. Member who represents the University interests in this House was aware of the University affairs which are governed now by the Vice-Chancellor and his Advisory Committee which does the function of the Syndicate.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—“I know that. It is not an answer to my question. The answer given on the paper has reference only to the Syndicate, which is a non-existent body. Am I to infer from that statement of the hon. the Minister that what is to be done by the Syndicate is being done by some other body?”

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask the hon. Gentleman who has put the question where he found stated the information that the Government did not consult experts between May 1923 and January 1924 during the short period in which the Syndicate was non-existent?”



[8th February 1924]

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I rise to a point of order, Sir. Is it open to an hon. Member to put questions to the original questioner? That is what has been done. Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar said, ‘I want to ask the hon. Gentleman who has put the question.’ So the supplementary question has been evidently put to an hon. Member who has already asked a supplementary question. I want your ruling Sir, on this point. Because it will be very important for many of us to know if supplementary questions can be put not only to the Members in charge but also to other hon. Members.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“It is unnecessary for me to give a ruling on the point. I think Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar did not understand the question as put and therefore wanted to be enlightened. It is perfectly open to an hon. Member to seek enlightenment in that way.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“In view of the fact that more than ten years have been spent in the preparation of the Lexicon and in view of the fact that a considerable expense has been incurred on it, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to consider the desirability of taking the opinion of experts (I use the word ‘expert’ deliberately) as to the value of the work so far done?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The question does not seek for information but makes a suggestion.”

Mr. M. RATNASWAMI :—“In view of the question put by my hon. Friend Mr. Satyamurti, may I know if the Lexicon Committee does not already consist of experts?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“It does.”

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—“May I know if any portion of its work has yet been published?”

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—“The University is in charge of it and not the Government.”

386 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of money spent by the Government and the University on the preparation of the Tamil Lexicon;

(b) the original amount sanctioned for the purpose;

(c) the amount of work so far done towards the preparation and publication of the Lexicon;

(d) the number of years and months the Lexicon has been under preparation;

(e) the time when the Lexicon is expected to be published in full;

(f) the amount of money still needed to finish the preparation of and publish the Lexicon;

(g) the number, qualifications and emoluments of the staff employed in the preparation of the Lexicon; and

(h) the agency which controls the undertaking; and

(i) the provision, if any, for expert supervision of the work of the staff?



8th February 1924]

A.—(a), (b), (c), (e) & (f) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clauses (a), (b), (d) and (c) of question No. 385.

12-15 p.m. (d) Eleven years and one month.  
(g) The Government are not in possession of full information.  
(h) The Syndicate of the Madras University.  
(i) The work of the Lexicon staff is supervised by a committee appointed by the Syndicate.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask for the qualifications of the members of the Committee supervising the Lexicon staff referred to in my question sub-clause (1) ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The Committee is appointed by the Syndicate and the Government are not in possession of information."

### Agriculture.

*Principal, Agricultural College, Coimbatore.*

387 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether the appointment of the Principal of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, is made according to strict seniority among officers of the Imperial Agricultural Service, and, if so, whether that principle was observed in the past in appointments of Principal of the College ?

A.—No. Seniority is merely one of the qualifications which are taken into consideration in making the appointment.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if the claims of a senior was not superseded by the appointment of Mr. Morris some time ago ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" I want notice."

*Dr. Parnell's work in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore.*

388 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether Dr. Parnell does any teaching work in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, and, if so, the classes he takes and the number of hours in a week he devotes to teaching them ?

A.—Mr. Parnell is a Research Officer and does no teaching work except for occasional lectures on plant breeding which do not however form part of any regular course.

### Co-operative Societies.

*Appointment of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies.*

389 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(1) the names of Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies appointed during the last two years of the last Legislative Council, their last appointments with their pay, their qualifications, caste and their permanent lien, if any, in Government service ;

(2) the number of Chief Inspectors qualified for such posts under examination rules who have experience as Chief Inspectors for at least five years ;